DARK HORSE COMICS
THE SHADOW and DOC SAVAGE
2 OF 2
$2.95 US
$4.15 CAN
THE Shadow and DOC SAVAGE
Inside! The PERIL-PACKED CASE OF THE SHRIEKING SKELETONS!
featuring
STEVE VANCE
STAN MANOUKIAN
VINCE ROUCHER

THE Shadow and DOC SAVAGE

THE CASE OF THE SHRIEKING SKELETONS PART TWO

Steve Vance
writer

Stan Manoukian
and
Vince Roucher
interior illustrators

James Sinclair
colorist

Clem Rabins
letterer

Scott Fuentes
designer

Robert V. Conte
editor

Stan Manoukian, Vince Roucher, and Dave Stevens
cover artists

The Shadow created by Walter Gibson

Doc Savage created by Lester Dent

MIKE RICHARDSON publisher • NEIL HANKERSON executive vp • DAVID SCROGGY vp of publishing
LOU BANK vp of marketing • ANDY KARABATSOS vp of finance • MARK ANDERSON general counsel
DIANA SCHUTZ editor in chief • RANDY STRADLEY creative director • CINDY MARKS director of production & design
MARK COX art director • SEAN TIERNEY computer graphics manager • CHRIS CREVISTON director of accounting
MICHAEL MARTENS marketing director • TOD BORLESKE sales and licensing director
MARK ELLINGTON director of operations • DALE LAFOUNTAIN director of m.i.s.

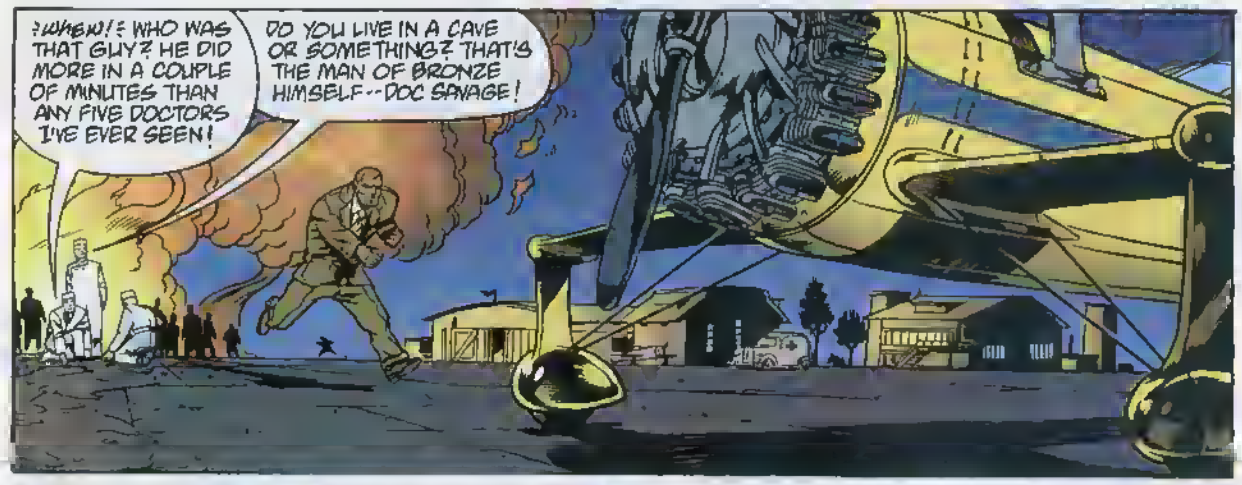
The Shadow and Doc Savage #2 (of 2), August 1995. Published by Dark Horse Comics, Inc., 10956 SE Main Street, Milwaukie, OR 97222. Text and illustrations for The Shadow and Doc Savage copyright 1995 by Advance Magazine Publishers Inc. d/b/a The Condé Nast Publications Inc. All rights reserved including the rights of reproduction in whole or in part in any form. The Shadow® and associated elements and marks are registered trademarks of Advance Magazine Publishers Inc. Doc Savage® is a registered trademark of The Condé Nast Publications, Inc. All other material, unless otherwise specified, is © 1995 Dark Horse Comics, Inc. Dark Horse Comics® and the Dark Horse logo are registered trademarks of Dark Horse Comics, Inc. All rights reserved. The events, institutions, and characters presented in this magazine are fictional. Any resemblance to actual persons, living or dead, is purely coincidental. No portion of this publication may be reproduced, by any means, without the express permission from the copyright holder(s).

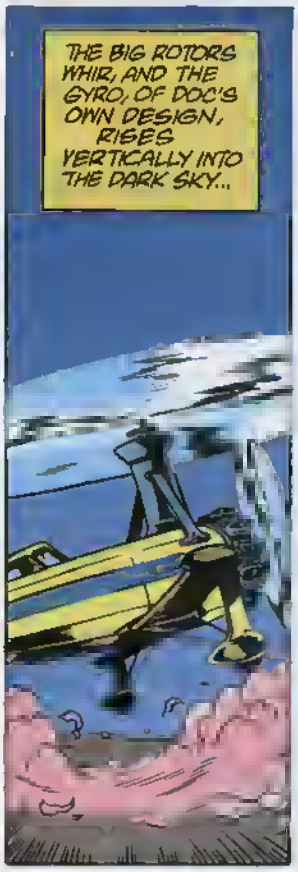
PRINTED IN CANADA

THE GREAT AIRSHIP HINDENBURG, NEARING THE END OF A ROUTINE FLIGHT FROM GERMANY, IS 300 FEET ABOVE THE LAKEHURST, NEW JERSEY, AIRFIELD WHEN TRAGEDY STRIKES...
A STRAY BULLET SPARKS THE FIRE, SENDING THE LARGEST FLYING CRAFT EVER BUILT CRASHING TO THE GROUND, A FUNERAL PYRE 1/6 OF A MILE LONG...
THE BULLET'S INTENDED TARGET IS...THE SHADOW!
MEANWHILE, EYES ARE WATCHING, TAKING IN EVERY DETAIL OF THE HORRIFIC SCENE. THEY ARE STRANGE, HYPNOTIC EYES, LIKE TWIN POOLS OF FLAKE GOLD STIRRED BY TINY WHIRLWINDS...
...THE EYES OF DOC SAVAGE!

..JESUS, MARY, AND JOSEPH..
NO! IT CAN'T..
--IT'S A TERRIFIC CRASH, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN...OH, THE HUMANITY AND ALL THE PASSENGERS!
..WORST THING I EVER SAW--
--WHATEVER COULD HAVE HAPPENED?!
--JUST BLEW UP RIGHT IN--
--A BOMB, I BETCHA--
--SABOTAGE--
..THEM BROWN SHIRTS ARE GONNA--
..GOTTA CALL MY EDITOR--
HAHAHAH

MOMENTS LATER...
STRANGE--THIS MAN'S THROAT HAS BEEN CUT!
ODD... WELL, IN A CRASH LIKE THIS, YOU NEVER KNOW. GIVE ME A HAND WITH THIS FELLOW'S DRESSINGS.
CAN I BE OF HELP, GENTLEMEN?
GIVE HIM 10 C.C.S --IT WILL HELP EASE THE PAIN UNTIL HE REACHES THE HOSPITAL.
DEPUTY SCIENCE MINISTER FRIEDRICH VON PARSEVAL?
Y-YES. WHO ARE YOU?
MUST BE YOUR LUCKY DAY, PAL! FIRST YOU WALK AWAY FROM THAT ZEP CRASH, AND NOW WE'RE HERE T'GIVE YOU A FREE RIDE INTO TOWN!
WE WOULDA BROUGHT A BRASS BAND, BUT WE FIGURED YOU FOR THE QUIET TYPE--IF YOU CATCH MY DRIFT.
INSOLENT DOGS! I AM A HIGH-RANKING MEMBER OF THE FUHRER'S GOVERNMENT! WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?
OUR BOSS WANTS T'SEE YOU, BUT DON'T ASK ME WHY--YOU'RE NOT EXACTLY A CHARMING CONVERSATIONALIST.
TAKE THE WHEEL--I'LL KEEP OUR FRIEND COMPANY.
AIRFIELD
NO NEED TO BE NERVOUS, MR. VON P.--I'M A VERY SAFE DRIVER!


?WHEW!? WHO WAS THAT GUY? HE DID MORE IN A COUPLE OF MINUTES THAN ANY FIVE DOCTORS I'VE EVER SEEN!
DO YOU LIVE IN A CAVE OR SOMETHING? THAT'S THE MAN OF BRONZE HIMSELF--DOC SAVAGE!


THE BIG ROTORS WHIR, AND THE GYRO, OF DOC'S OWN DESIGN, RISES VERTICALLY INTO THE DARK SKY...

...TRAILING BEHIND IT, A STRANGE CLOUD OF PINK VAPOR.

THE MIST SPREADS WIDELY, BUT QUICKLY DISSIPATES, SEEMINGLY WITHOUT A TRACE.

THE CAR CARRYING VON PARSEVAL PULLS AWAY, BUT IF DOC SAVAGE NOTICES, HE SHOWS NO SIGN. HE TURNS THE GYRO TOWARD NEW YORK.

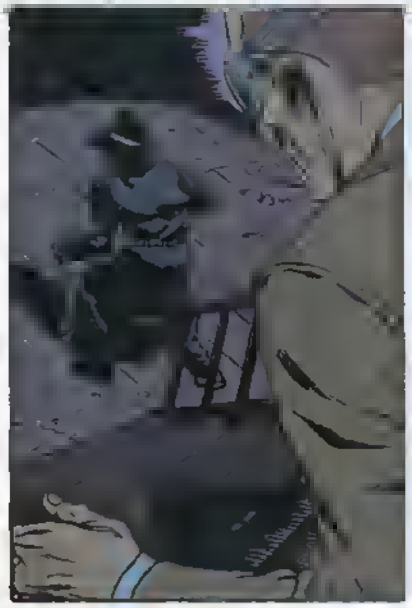
LATER, IN THE BOWERY...
OKAY, FREDDY--END OF THE LINE.

C'MON, BUB -- MOVE IT! WE GOT NO TIME FOR FOOT-DRAGGING!
I THOUGHT THESE NAZIS WERE SUPPOSED T'BE TOUGH! THIS BIRD'S SHAKING LIKE A LEAF! HA! MASTER RA--
POKK
--AAAAGH!
SKLAKK
GREETINGS, MY FRIEND...
FUN

...YOUR TIMING IS IMPECCABLE, AS USUAL.
CONCEAL MY ERST-WHILE CAPTORS IN THE ALLEY, THEN RETURN TO YOUR TAXI AND KEEP WATCH. I HAVE BUSINESS INSIDE.
SOON...
WAREHOUSE
WHHRRRR
KLIK
SILENCERS
WITH SCARCELY MORE SOUND THAN A NIGHT BREEZE, DOC'S GYRO SETTLES GENTLY ONTO THE WAREHOUSE ROOF.
THE BRONZE MAN GLIDES CAT-LIKE TOWARD A LIGHTED SKYLIGHT...
...WHICH SUDDENLY GOES DARK!

ON
OFF

DOC CLIMBS DOWN A SLENDER SILK CORD INTO THE SILENT DARKNESS.



HE PULLS A PADDED CASE FROM BENEATH HIS JACKET AND WITHDRAWS A GLASS GLOBE FILLED WITH VISCOUS LIQUID.

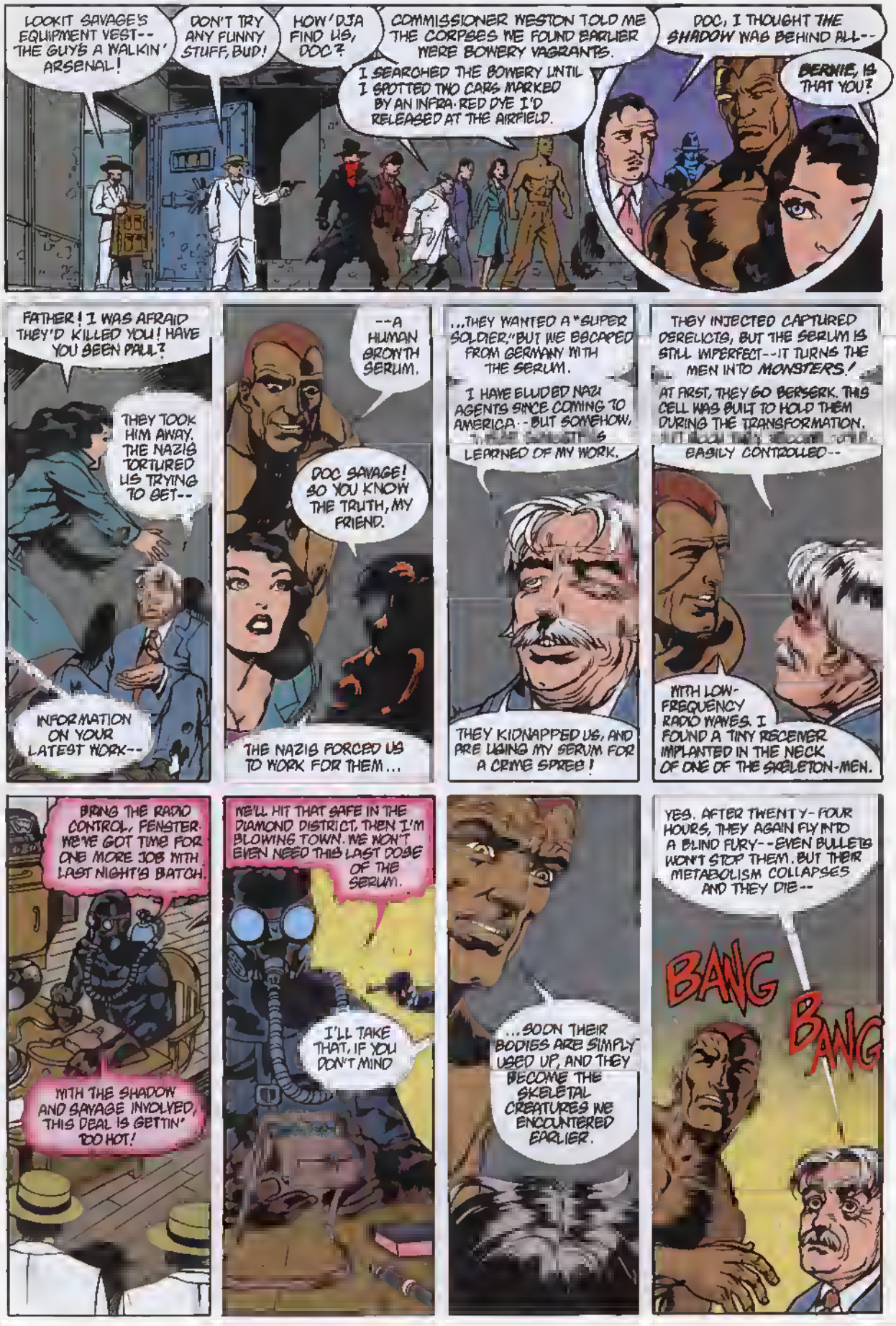
CHINK

THE SHADOW COLLAPSES TO THE FLOOR. THE BRONZE MAN WATCHES. BREATHLESS SECONDS TICK BY, UNTIL...

I'M FAMILIAR WITH YOUR ANESTHETIC GAS, SAVAGE! I HELD MY BREATH TO ESCAPE ITS EFFECTS!
I KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR METHODS THAN YOU COULD IMAGINE!
KA-CHOW

K-POW
TWIIK
BOK
BOK
STOP!
SURRENDER, BOTH OF YOU--

--OR YOUR FRIENDS DIE!
MONK--HAM! ARE YOU FELLOWS ALL RIGHT?
DON'T GIVE UP, DOC--WE CAN TAKE THIS GUY!
HEY, BOSS...
...WE FOUND THIS BIRD SNOOPIN' AROUND OUTSIDE. Y'WANT US TO GET RID OF HIM?
HMM...
...PERHAPS WE SHOULD ASK OUR BATTLING FRIENDS HERE WHAT THEY THINK WE SHOULD DO WITH HIM!
KA-CHANG
KA-CHANG
AH! I BELIEVE WE HAVE OUR ANSWER!


LOOKIT SAVAGE'S EQUIPMENT VEST-- THE GUY'S A WALKIN' ARSENAL!
DON'T TRY ANY FUNNY STUFF, BUD!
HOW'DJA FIND US, DOC?
COMMISSIONER WESTON TOLD ME THE CORPSES WE FOUND EARLIER WERE BOWERY VAGRANTS.
I SEARCHED THE BOWERY UNTIL I SPOTTED TWO CARS MARKED BY AN INFRA-RED DYE I'D RELEASED AT THE AIRFIELD.
DOC, I THOUGHT THE SHADOW WAS BEHIND ALL--
BERNIE, IS THAT YOU?
FATHER! I WAS AFRAID THEY'D KILLED YOU! HAVE YOU BEEN PAUL?
THEY TOOK HIM AWAY. THE NAZIS TORTURED US TRYING TO GET--
INFORMATION ON YOUR LATEST WORK--
--A HUMAN GROWTH SERUM.
DOC SAVAGE! SO YOU KNOW THE TRUTH, MY FRIEND.
THE NAZIS FORCED US TO WORK FOR THEM...
...THEY WANTED A "SUPER SOLDIER," BUT WE ESCAPED FROM GERMANY WITH THE SERUM.
I HAVE ELUDED NAZI AGENTS SINCE COMING TO AMERICA--BUT SOMEHOW, S LEARNED OF MY WORK.
THEY KIDNAPPED US, AND ARE USING MY SERUM FOR A CRIME SPREE!
THEY INJECTED CAPTURED DERELICTS, BUT THE SERUM IS STILL IMPERFECT--IT TURNS THE MEN INTO MONSTERS!
AT FIRST, THEY GO BERSERK. THIS CELL WAS BUILT TO HOLD THEM DURING THE TRANSFORMATION.
EASILY CONTROLLED--
WITH LOW-FREQUENCY RADIO WAVES, I FOUND A TINY RECEIVER IMPLANTED IN THE NECK OF ONE OF THE SKELETON-MEN.
BRING THE RADIO CONTROL, FENSTER. WE'VE GOT TIME FOR ONE MORE JOB WITH LAST NIGHT'S BATCH.
WITH THE SHADOW AND SAVAGE INVOLVED, THIS DEAL IS GETTIN' TOO HOT!
WE'LL HIT THAT SAFE IN THE DIAMOND DISTRICT, THEN I'M BLOWING TOWN. WE WON'T EVEN NEED THIS LAST DOSE OF THE SERUM.
I'LL TAKE THAT, IF YOU DON'T MIND
...SOON THEIR BODIES ARE SIMPLY USED UP, AND THEY BECOME THE SKELETAL CREATURES WE ENCOUNTERED EARLIER.
YES. AFTER TWENTY-FOUR HOURS, THEY AGAIN FLY INTO A BLIND FURY--EVEN BULLETS WON'T STOP THEM. BUT THEIR METABOLISM COLLAPSES AND THEY DIE--
BANG
BANG

WHAT UNSAVORY CONDITIONS YOU ARE BEING KEPT IN, PROFESSOR! I'M SURE YOU WILL BE MORE COMFORTABLE BACK IN YOUR LABORATORY IN BERLIN!
VON PARSEVAL --AND KRELL! I SUSPECTED YOU WERE PURSUING ME!
YES, THE EVER-USEFUL HERR KRELL, OUR TOP AGENT IN AMERICA! NOT ONLY HAS HE HELPED ME LOCATE YOU--
--BUT HE HAS ALSO GIVEN THE MASKED AMERICAN GANGSTER A SUITABLE REWARD FOR HIS...PARTICIPATION IN THIS AFFAIR.
DOC--THIS MUST BE THE GUY WE THOUGHT WAS THE SHADOW!
AH, HERR VEIDT. EXCELLENT--NOW OUR TRAVELING PARTY IS COMPLETE!
PAUL! MY GOD-- WHAT HAVE THEY DONE TO YOU?!
FEAR NOT, MISS REINSTEIN--YOU SHALL ACCOMPANY YOUR FIANCÉ ON OUR JOURNEY TO THE FATHERLAND! I BELIEVE YOUR PRESENCE WILL PROVE... INSPIRATIONAL!
YOU THREE WILL JOIN US AS WELL--YOU MAY BE USEFUL AS INSURANCE. BUT DON'T WORRY, WE WILL RELEASE YOU SOON ENOUGH--
--WHEN WE ARE, SAY, TEN-THOUSAND FEET ABOVE THE ATLANTIC!
NOW MOVE!

THE SHADOW AND SAVAGE ARE TOO DANGEROUS TO ALLOW OUT OF THE CELL. IF YOU GENTLEMEN WILL DISPOSE OF THEM, YOU MAY KEEP THE LOOT FROM YOUR ROBBERIES.
HERR KRELL WILL REMAIN IN AMERICA. IF YOU FAIL, YOU WILL HEAR FROM HIM--AND HE IS NOT A SYMPATHETIC MAN.
DON'T YOU WORRY--WE'LL TAKE CARE OF 'EM.

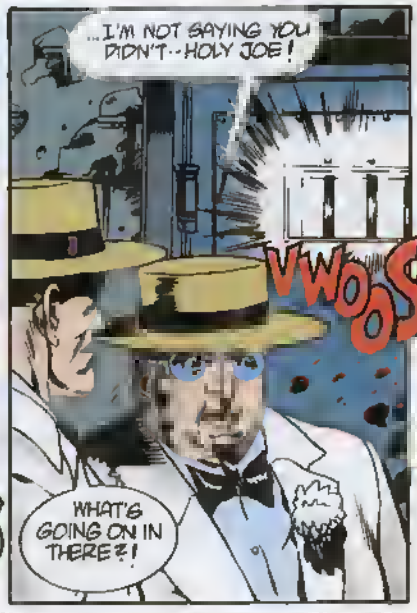
OKAY, BOYS --TAKE CARE OF 'EM!
GULPS O-OKAY BOSS.

SO WHADDYA THINK, KIDD? JUST WALK IN AND START BLASTING?
YOU HANDLE IT HOW-EVER YOU WANT, TUB --I FIGURE THIS ONE'S UP TO YOU

AND HOW DO YOU FIGURE THAT?
YOU OWE ME ONE FOR THE FAVOR I DID FOR YOU LAST WEEK.
WHAT FAVOR? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?

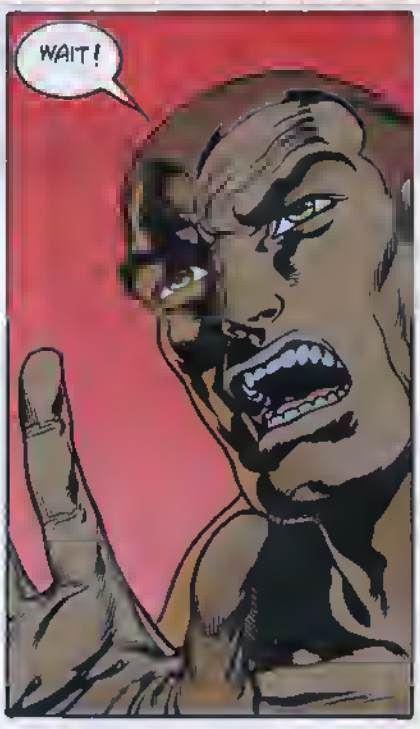
I TOOK YOUR SISTER OUT DANCING, TUB! HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN ALREADY?
FOR THE LOVE O'--HAVE YOU GONE SCREWY? THAT'S GOT NOTHING T'DO WITH THIS!

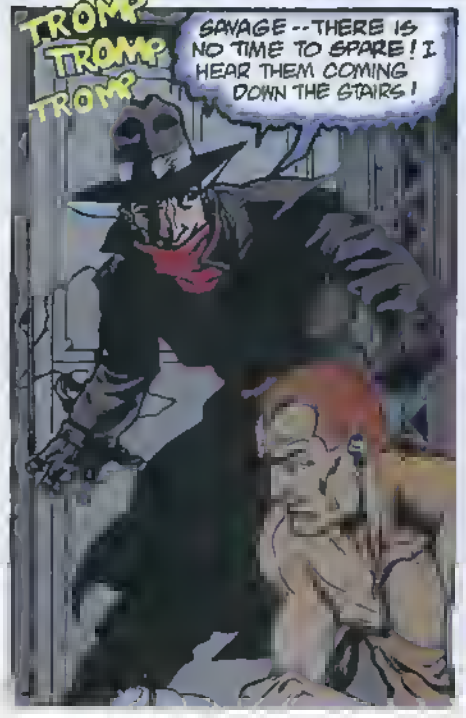
YOU PLEADED WITH ME TO TAKE HER OUT! YOU SAID YOU'D DO ANYTHING I ASKED IN EXCHANGE! WELL--I'M ASKING!
LOOK, KIDD, BE REASONABLE...
SSSSSSS

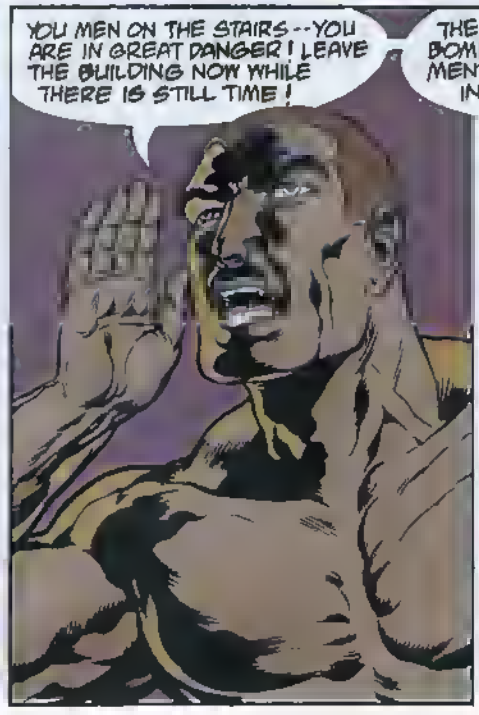

...I'M NOT SAYING YOU DIDN'T--HOLY JOE!
VWOOSH
WHAT'S GOING ON IN THERE?!

THEY'RE GONE!
THAT HOLE-- THEY'RE IN THE BASEMENT!

QUICKLY! THE DOOR IS THIS WAY!
BLAM BLAM BLAM
eh?


WAIT!


TROMP TROMP TROMP
SAVAGE--THERE IS NO TIME TO SPARE! I HEAR THEM COMING DOWN THE STAIRS!

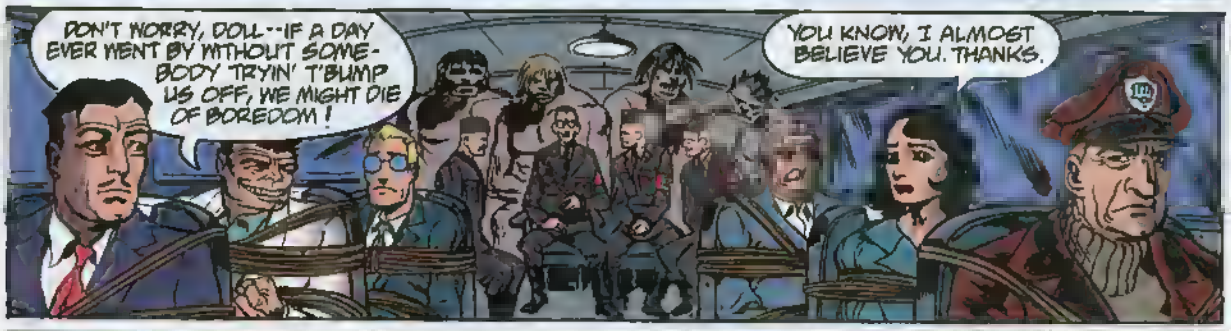

YOU MEN ON THE STAIRS--YOU ARE IN GREAT DANGER! LEAVE THE BUILDING NOW WHILE THERE IS STILL TIME!

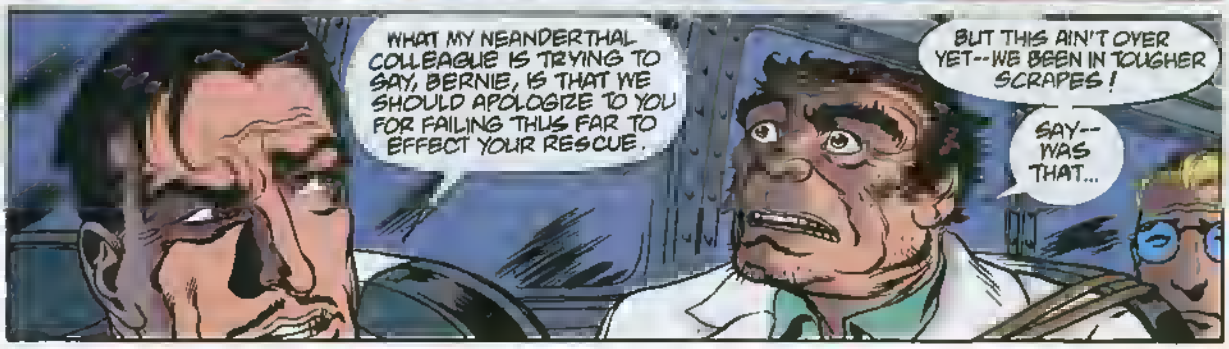
THE NAZIS LEFT A TIME BOMB HERE IN THE BASEMENT! IT WILL DETONATE IN THIRTY SECONDS!
12
11
10
9
8
7
6

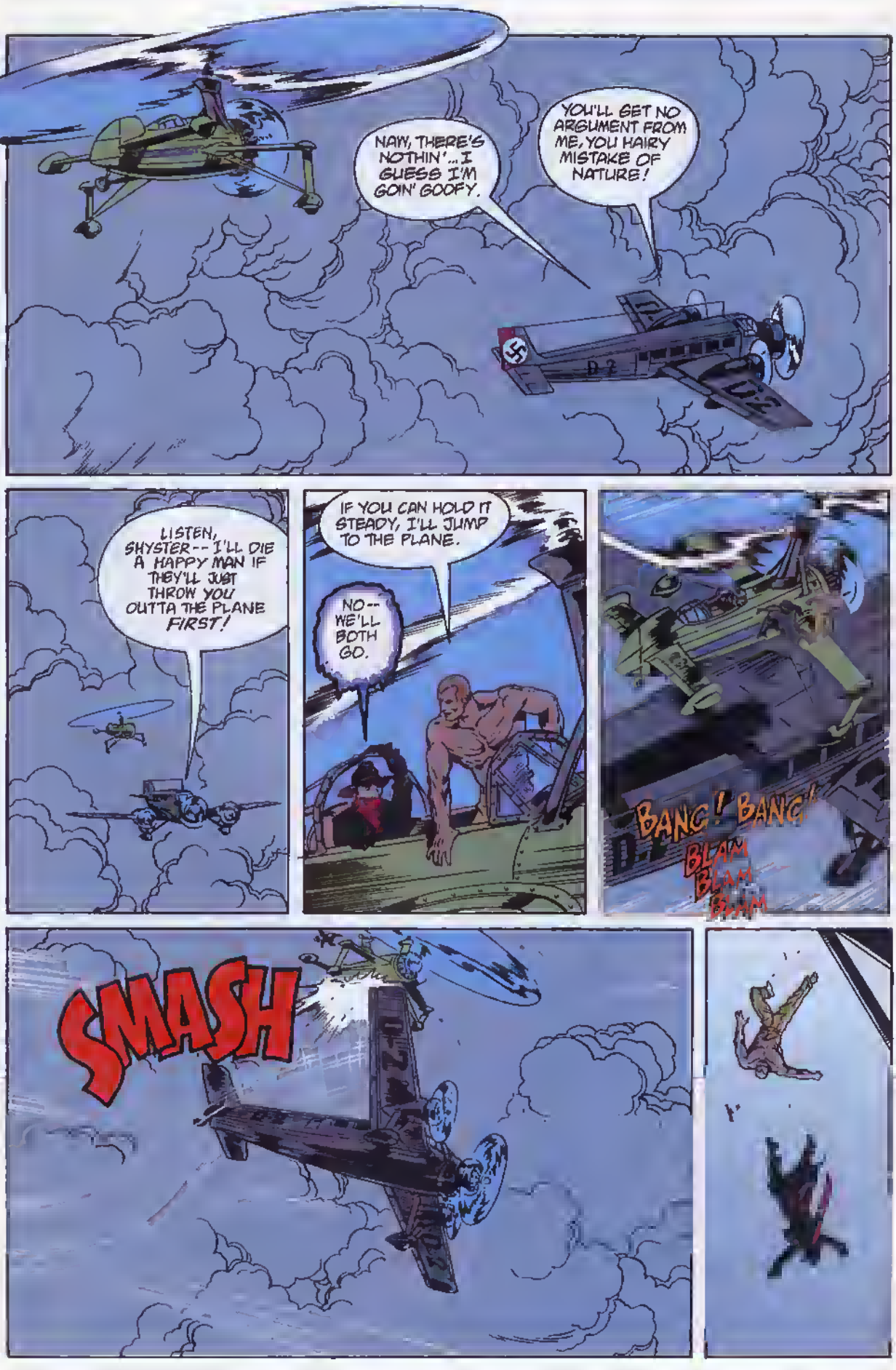
WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
WHADDYA MEAN? DON'T BE A SAP! THERE'S NO BOMB--IT'S A TRICK!
I DUNNO, PERK--THEY SAY THAT BRONZE GUY NEVER LIES!
HEY, WHA--?
BANG BANG BANG
HURRY UP, SAVAGE--
--WE'VE WASTED ENOUGH TIME ON THIS SCUM.

KA-HOOOM!

TWO HOURS LATER, ABOVE THE ATLANTIC...
OH, MR. MAYFAIR --CAN YOU EVER FORGIVE ME?
THE NAZIS ARE GOING TO KILL YOU, AND IT'S ALL MY FAULT! IF IT WEREN'T FOR ME, YOU WOULD NEVER HAVE GOTTEN MIXED UP IN THIS HORRIBLE BUSINESS!


DON'T WORRY, DOLL--IF A DAY EVER WENT BY WITHOUT SOMEBODY TRYIN' T'BUMP US OFF, WE MIGHT DIE OF BOREDOM!
YOU KNOW, I ALMOST BELIEVE YOU. THANKS.


WHAT MY NEANDERTHAL COLLEAGUE IS TRYING TO SAY, BERNIE, IS THAT WE SHOULD APOLOGIZE TO YOU FOR FAILING THUS FAR TO EFFECT YOUR RESCUE.
BUT THIS AIN'T OVER YET--WE BEEN IN TOUGHER SCRAPES!
SAY-- WAS THAT...


NAW, THERE'S NOTHIN'... I GUESS I'M GOIN' GOOFY.
YOU'LL GET NO ARGUMENT FROM ME, YOU HAIRY MISTAKE OF NATURE!
LISTEN, SHYSTER -- I'LL DIE A HAPPY MAN IF THEY'LL JUST THROW YOU OUTTA THE PLANE FIRST!
IF YOU CAN HOLD IT STEADY, I'LL JUMP TO THE PLANE.
NO -- WE'LL BOTH GO.
BANG! BANG!
BLAM BLAM BLAM
SMASH

FWIP
GRRAAAHHRRRLL!
DOC! BLAZES! THEM MONSTER-MEN TURNED INTA SKELETONS AND STARTED TEARIN' UP THE PLACE!
THE NAZIS OPENED FIRE, AND A STRAY SLUG HIT THE PILOT!

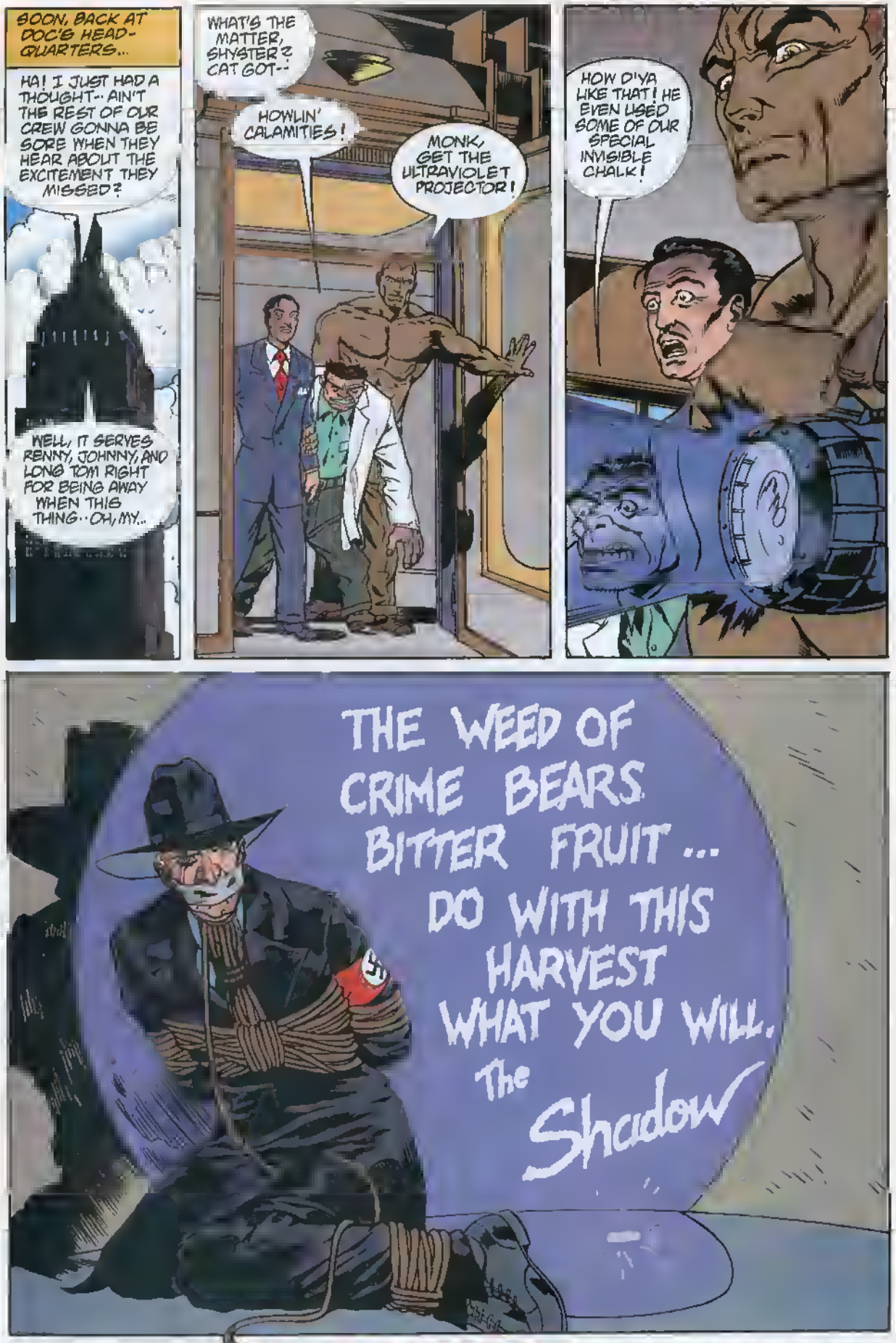
DOC SAVAGE--THANK HEAVENS! HOW DID YOU GET HERE!
WE HOMED IN ON THE RADIO SIGNAL THAT WAS BEING USED TO CONTROL THESE CREATURES.
WELL, IT'S SURE NOT CONTROLLING THEM NOW!
SEE IF YOU CAN RIGHT THE PLANE--
..WHILE I DEAL WITH VON PARSEVAL.
DOC'S GOTTA GET PAST THAT LAST MONSTER! IF I COULD JUST BUST OUTTA THESE BLASTED ROPES..
CHOPK

POW
POW
KRAK
FIOWW
TiiowW
DOC! DAGGONNIT, SHYSTER--WE GOTTA GET LOOSE AND HELP HIM!
WHAT DO YOU THINK I'M TRYING TO DO, YOU BRAINLESS BABOON?

BUMK
BUMK
BUMK
BLAM
KLICK KLICK
HA! FIRST YOU, HERR SHADOW--
--THEN I'LL DISPOSE OF YOUR HELPLESS FRIENDS!

UNNNF!
PAUL! THE SERUM--
--NO!
MEIN GOTT--!
BLAM BLAM
D-2
PAUL...

POOR KID...
INDEED. TO SEE ONE'S FIANCÉ PERISH, EVEN IN SO HEROIC A FASHION...
YES, PAUL GOT TIRED OF THE IMPOVERISHED LIFE HE WAS FORCED TO LIVE WHILE HIDING FROM THE NAZIS. HE DECIDED TO CASH IN ON THE FORMULA BY TURNING TO CRIME.
THE NAZIS WANTED REINSTEIN TO TRUST PAUL, SO THEY DIDN'T REVEAL HIS SECRET. FORTUNATELY, PAUL'S HATRED OF THE NAZIS OUTWEIGHED HIS GREED.
PAUL WAS WASTIN' HIS TIME ROBBING BANKS--THAT SERUM WILL BE WORTH A FORTUNE BY ITSELF IF OLD MAN REINSTEIN EVER WORKS IT OUT.
THEN I'M SURE YOU'LL AGREE WITH ME THAT THERE'S NO NEED TO TELL HER THAT PAUL WAS THE MASKED MASTERMIND BEHIND THIS WHOLE BUSINESS.
YOU MEAN--
WHAT WILL HAPPEN NOW? KRELL IS STILL OUT THERE SOMEWHERE--HE'S BOUND TO COME LOOKING FOR US.
I KNOW A SECRET GOVERNMENT PROJECT WHERE YOU COULD CONTINUE YOUR RESEARCH.
YOU WOULD BE PROTECTED, AND YOUR WORK WOULD BENEFIT THE CAUSE OF LIBERTY.
IT SOUNDS WONDERFUL.. HOW CAN WE EVER THANK YOU AND YOUR MEN, AND...
...THE SHADOW?
BLAZES! WHERE DID HE GO?


SOON, BACK AT DOC'S HEADQUARTERS...
HA! I JUST HAD A THOUGHT.. AIN'T THE REST OF OUR CREW GONNA BE SORE WHEN THEY HEAR ABOUT THE EXCITEMENT THEY MISSED?
WELL, IT SERVES RENNY, JOHNNY, AND LONG TOM RIGHT FOR BEING AWAY WHEN THIS THING..OH, MY...
WHAT'S THE MATTER, SHYSTER? CAT GOT--
HOWLIN' CALAMITIES!
MONK, GET THE ULTRAVIOLET PROJECTOR!
HOW D'YA LIKE THAT! HE EVEN USED SOME OF OUR SPECIAL INVISIBLE CHALK!
THE WEED OF CRIME BEARS BITTER FRUIT... DO WITH THIS HARVEST WHAT YOU WILL.
The Shadow

NEXT MONTH! DOC SAVAGE® RETURNS IN CURSE OF THE FIRE GOD

NEXT MONTH . . .

DOC SAVAGE

DONE RIGHT!

Coming in September 1995
from Dark Horse Comics!

QUALITY • DIVERSITY • CREATIVITY

DARK HORSE COMICS

Doc Savage © by The Conde Nast Publications Inc. All rights reserved. Dark Horse Comics and the Dark Horse Comics logo are trademarks of Dark Horse Comics, Inc.